



Claim 11 has been amended to recite a photographic reduction projection catadioptric objective that includes a first optical group and a second at least substantially dioptric optical group. The first optical group includes at least six mirrors. In addition, claim 11 has been amended to recite that an intermediate image is formed optically between a fourth mirror (M4) and a fifth mirror (M5). This is yet another feature that forms a part of the present invention but is entirely absent from the Shafer reference. On these grounds reconsideration and allowance are in order.

Claims 14-30 should be allowed as depending from what should be an allowed independent claim 11.

Claim 13 has been amended to recite that the at least six mirrors includes a first mirror (M1); a second mirror (M2); third mirror (M3); and a fourth mirror (M4). The third mirror (M3) and the fourth mirror (M4) are disposed optically after the first and second mirrors (M1, M2) but are physically disposed between the first and second mirrors (M1, M2). Applicants respectfully submit that this reference fails to include the claimed arrangement and therefore, the rejection of claim 13 should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: October 12, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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